



October 2003

SN engineer named Mohawk Valley leader

as submitted by the Sensors Directorate

WRIGHT-PATTERSON AIR FORCE BASE, Ohio — Jim Perretta, Air Force Research Laboratory's Sensors Directorate, Rome, N.Y., is one of ten young leaders in the Mohawk Valley area to be selected for this year's Accent on Excellence Award.

Accent on Excellence is an awards program focused on recognizing and encouraging the young leaders of Oneida and Herkimer counties.

Currently an electronics engineer for the Radar Signal Processing Branch, Perretta participates in and volunteers for various community service projects, and was also a computer-programming teacher at SUNYIT for the past two years. He is the mayor of Cold Brook, a village with a population around 300, and co-founder of a Run and Walk event at Piseco Lake.

In its three years of existence, Accent on Excellence has honored 33 outstanding young leaders. Honorees have come from many sectors of the local business and service community, where they use their influence and personal time to help run successful organizations as well as support volunteer efforts, non-profit boards and their children's after school activities. Honorees will be individuals under the age of 40 who excel in making the area's business, cultural, special services climate a growing force in helping the area rebound. These individuals are making a difference today and will continue to mold the Mohawk Valley into the 21st century.

This year's ten award recipients were honored at a reception on October 1 and an awards luncheon on October 2. They were the subjects of a special September 14 special feature in the Observer-Dispatch that will highlight the Mohawk Valley's leaders of tomorrow. They will have the opportunity to designate a local charity as beneficiary of a contribution from program sponsors along with a \$500 per honoree grant provided by the Community Foundation of Oneida and Herkimer County.



Jim Perretta

Photo by Elizabeth A.
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